

THE FOG OF WAR — AN ERROL MORRIS FILM FEATURING ROBERT MCNAMARA

Reflections of Robert
McNamara on his Career as
the Secretary of Defense Under
John F. Kennedy and Lyndon
Johnson, 1961 - 1967

KILLING PEOPLE UNNECESSARILY: CIVILIANS AND SOLDIERS ALIKE

_____1. In the opening scene to the film, McNamara states that any military commander will admit the he has –

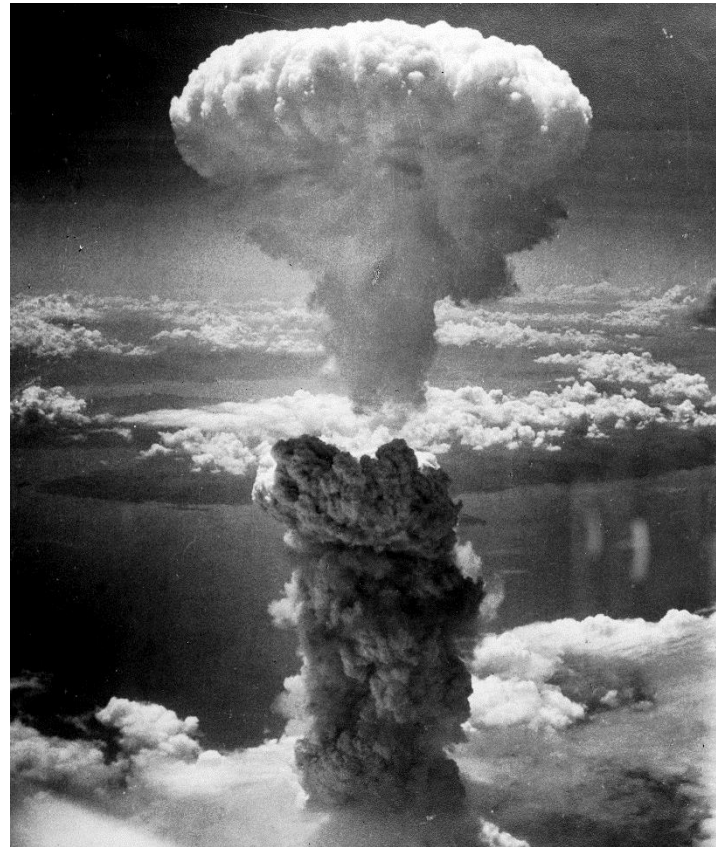
- A. committed war crimes.
- B. enjoyed killing the enemy.
- C. killed people unnecessarily.
- D. wasted government resources.



NATIONS WILL BE DESTROYED, JUST AS HIROSHIMA AND NAGASAKI WERE IN 1945

____2. If you make one
mistake with an nuclear
weapon –

- A. nations will be destroyed.
- B. human life on Earth will end.
- C. retaliation will always follow.
- D. the UN will intervene.



WORLD WAR II AND THE VIETNAM WAR

____3. What two major wars was Robert McNamara an active participant in?

- A. World War I and Korea
- B. World War II and Vietnam
- C. Vietnam and the Gulf War
- D. Korea and Afghanistan



SEC. OF DEFENSE ROBERT MCNAMARA SERVED JFK AND LYNDON JOHNSON, 1961 – 1967.

_____4. What job did Robert McNamara hold in the Kennedy Administration during the 1960s?

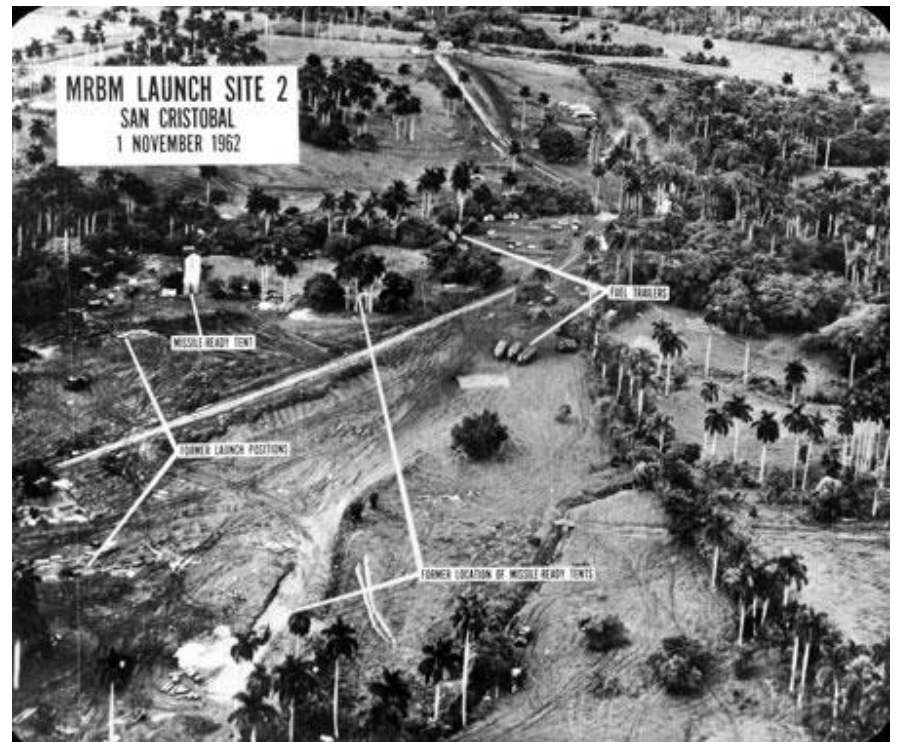
- A. Secretary of War
- B. Secretary of State
- C. Secretary of Defense
- D. Secretary of the Treasury



THE CUBAN MISSILE CRISIS, 1962

____5. In October of 1962, where did the United States discover Soviet-manufactured missile silos under construction?

- A. Alaska
- B. Cuba
- C. Mexico
- D. Grenada



BOMBS AWAY! BOMBS AWAY! BOMBS AWAY!

_____6. According to McNamara, what advice did General Curtis LeMay offer the President during the Cuban Missile Crisis?

- A. to negotiate with the Kremlin.
- B. to negotiate directly with Castro.
- C. to bombard and destroy Cuba.
- D. invade the Soviet Union.



THEY RESPONDED TO THE “SOFT” MESSAGE, TO DEFUSE THE SITUATION

_____7. After Kennedy had confronted the Soviet Union, the United States received two (2) letters from the Soviet Union. Which letter did Ambassador Tommy Thompson encourage President Kennedy to respond to?

- A. “Hardliner” Message
- B. “Soft” Conciliatory Message

THE ARMAGEDDON LETTERS

KENNEDY/KHRUSHCHEV/CASTRO

IN THE CUBAN MISSILE CRISIS



TOMMY THOMPSON — VOICE OF REASON

____8. Which Cabinet member stood up to President Kennedy by publically disagreeing with him, and telling him “No?”

- A. Curtis LeMay
- B. Robert F. Kennedy
- C. Tommy Thompson
- D. Robert McNamara



TRYING TO KILL FIDEL CASTRO: PASTIME OF THE C.I.A., 1959 - 1962

____ 9. Who had the United States attempted to assassinate over nine times during the Presidencies of Eisenhower, Kennedy, and – later – Lyndon Baines Johnson?

- A. Nikita Khrushchev
- B. Fidel Castro
- C. Manuel Noriega
- D. “Che” Guevara



IT WAS NOTHING BUT A LUCKY BREAK...

____10. What prevented nuclear war during the Cuban Missile Crisis, according to McNamara?

- A. Kennedy's skilled leadership.
- B. Khrushchev's weak leadership.
- C. fear of nuclear holocaust.
- D. luck



from HERBLOCK:
A CARTOONIST'S LIFE (Macmillan, 1993)

ONE FLAWED HUMAN BEING COULD DESTROY NATIONS AND POPULATIONS

_____11. According to Robert McNamara, there are 7500 nuclear bombs on Earth, and 2500 of them are on 15-minute alert to be launched by –

- A. The Russians
- B. The United States
- C. Israel, India, and Pakistan
- D. one flawed human being



CASTRO WAS PREPARED TO DESTROY HIS OWN NATION TO DEFY AMERICANS.

_____12. In 1992, Robert McNamara learned that –

- A. 162 nuclear warheads were in Cuba.
- B. Castro knew the missiles were there.
- C. Castro recommended using them.
- D. Castro did not care Cubans would die.
- E. All of the above were true.



WORLD WAR I: ARMISTICE DAY

11:00 AM 11 NOVEMBER

_____13. What war did Robert McNamara remember coming to an end in November of 1918 – as a two year old child?

- A. World War I
- B. World War II
- C. The Spanish-American War
- D. The Vietnam War



MCNAMARA ATTENDED UC-BERKELEY.

____14. What college did Robert S. McNamara attend in the 1930s?

- A. Stanford
- B. Cal-Berkeley
- C. Penn State
- D. Duke



STRANGELY ENOUGH...

_____15. What was Robert S. McNamara's middle name?

- A. Stevens
- B. Simpson
- C. His middle name was "S."
- D. Strange



HARVARD UNIVERSITY

_____16. When World War II began, where was Robert S. McNamara employed?

- A. Ford Motor Company
- B. Harvard University
- C. Attorney General of California
- D. Bank of America



FEAR: PERFECTLY JUSTIFIED, ASK YOSSARIAN.

_____17. After studying the “abort” rate among bombing missions at the start of World War II, McNamara’s team determined that the pilots were stopping their missions because of –

- A. mechanical failures
- B. lack of supplies.
- C. inexperienced pilots
- D. fear



COURT-MARTIAL

_____ 18. The “abort rate” dropped to virtually none when General Curtis LeMay began flying with his men and threaten any plane which turned around before flying over its target with –

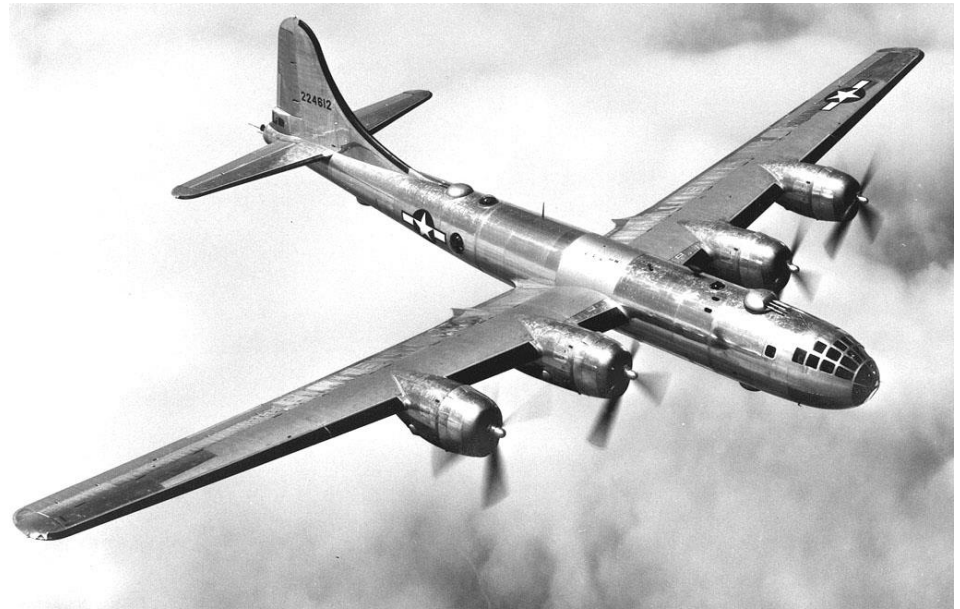
- A. execution
- B. court-martial
- C. fines
- D. the brig



THE B-29 BOMBER “SUPER FORTRESSES”

_____19. What new airplane was developed and built by the likes of “Rosie the Riveter” to bomb from high distances?

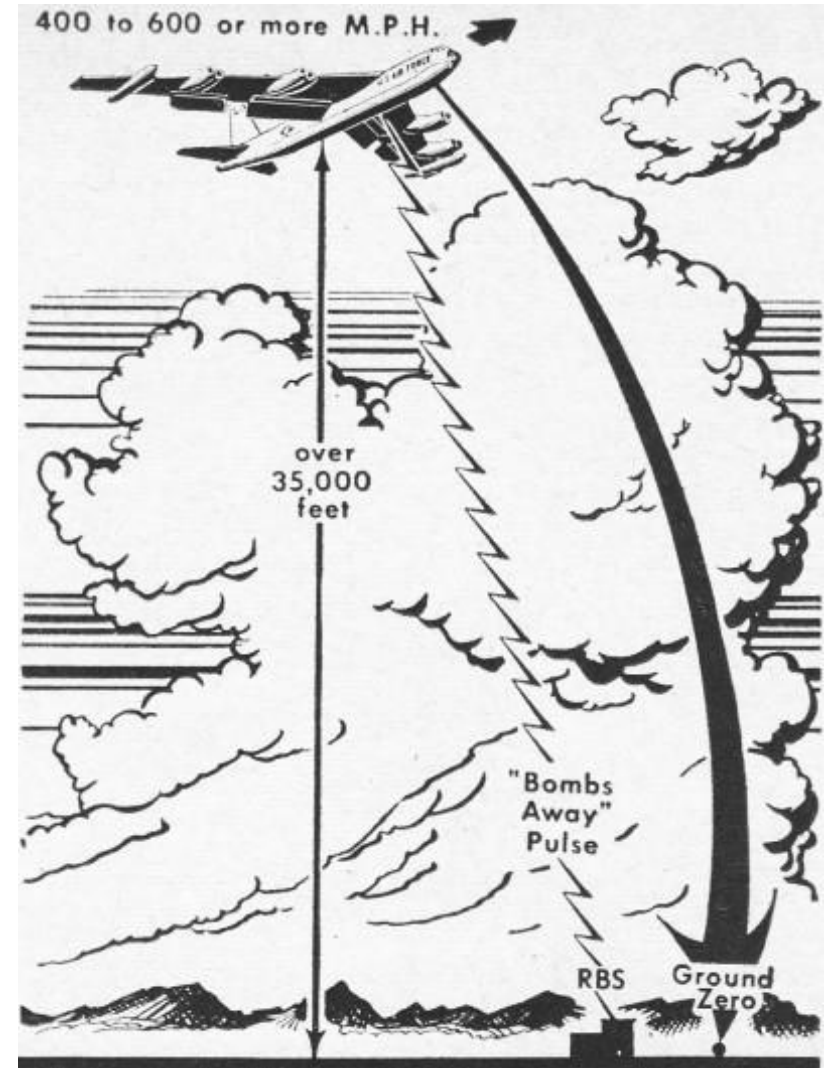
- A. B-17s
- B. B-29s
- C. Flying Fortresses
- D. B-52s



TARGET DESTRUCTION

_____20. What was the singular focus of General Curtis LeMay?

- A. The number of sorties flown.
- B. Target destruction.
- C. The number of bombs dropped.
- D. The number of men who died.



OVER 100,000 PEOPLE WERE KILLED IN TOKYO.

____21. How many civilians did the United States armed forces burn to death in Tokyo in a single night in March of 1945?

- A. hundreds
- B. thousands
- C. tens of thousands
- D. one hundred thousand people



TOKYO WAS A WOODEN CITY, AND IT BURNED.

 22. Fifty square miles of Tokyo and all the people in it were destroyed because –

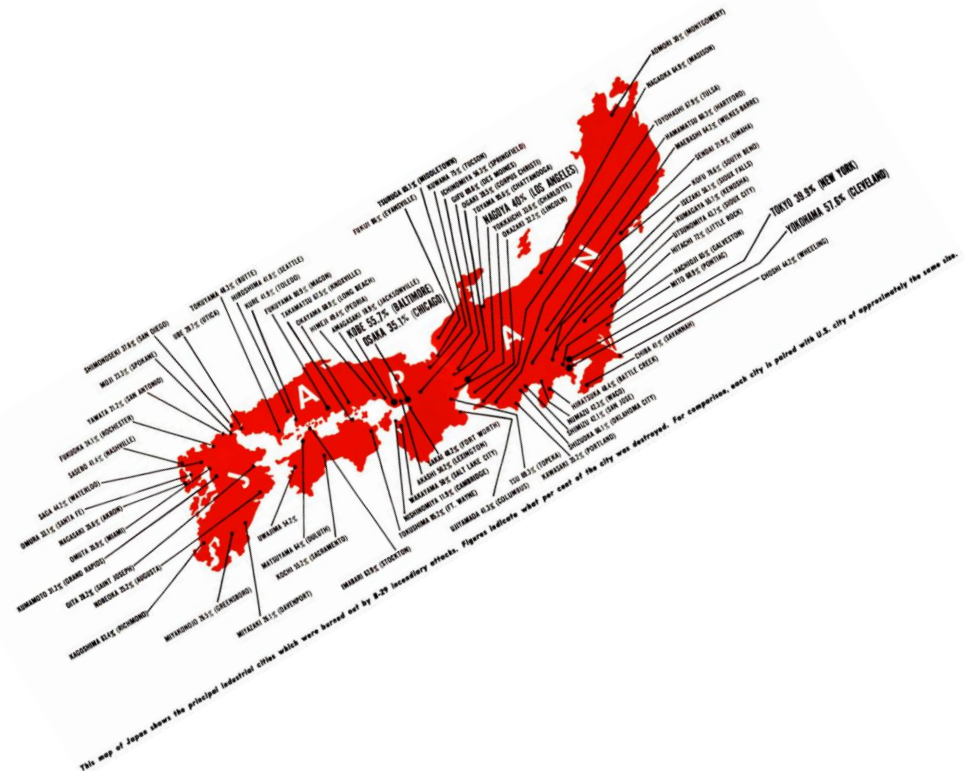
- A. Tokyo was a wooden city.
- B. The B-29s were lowered to 5000 feet to increase accuracy.
- C. firebombs were used instead of traditional explosives.
- D. All of the above reasons.



SIXTY-SEVEN OTHER CITIES FIREBOMBED.

_____23. How many other cities were firebombed and completely destroyed in Japan – before the dropping of the atomic bombs over Hiroshima and Nagasaki?

- A. one dozen
- B. three dozen
- C. fifty
- D. sixty-seven



ROBERT MCNAMARA AND GEN. CURTIS LEMAY

____24. Curtis LeMay claimed that if the United States had lost the war, the military and political leaders would have been tried as war criminals. Who did Robert S. McNamara say was acting as a war criminal during World War II?

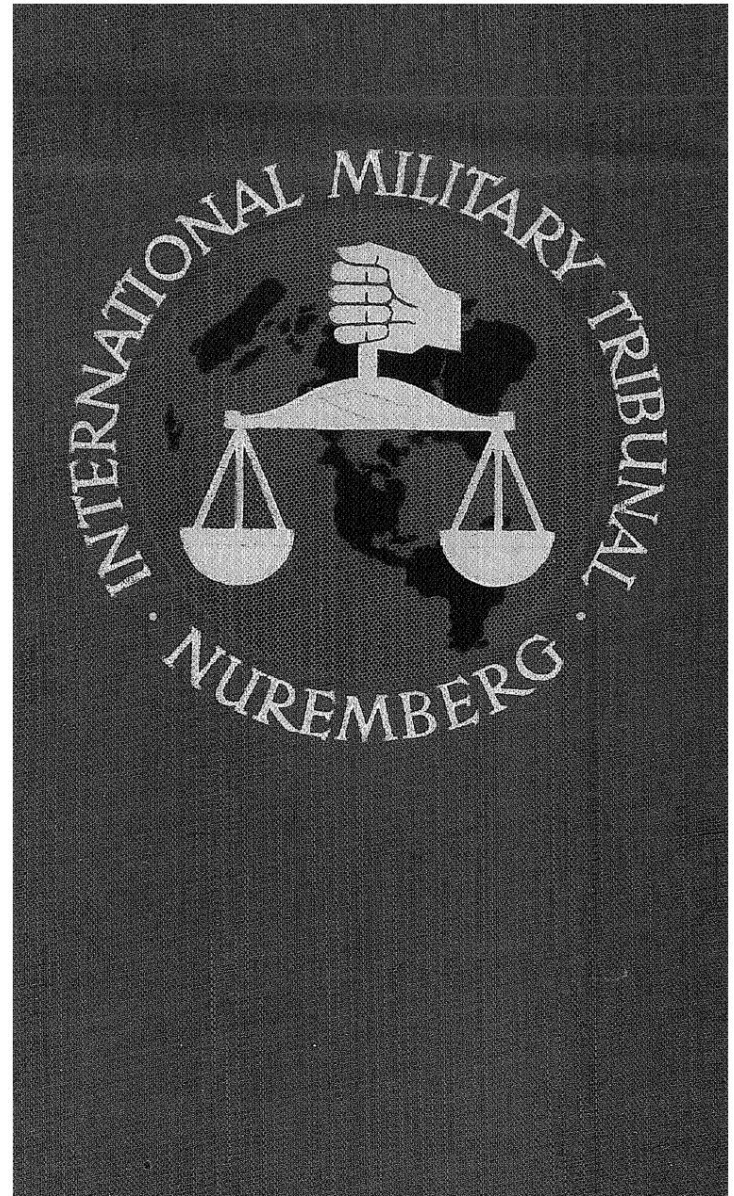
- A. FDR and Harry Truman
- B. MacArthur and Eisenhower
- C. Curtis LeMay and himself
- D. Japanese Civilians



NOTHING...

____25. What makes it immoral if you lose and not immoral if you win?

- A. Something.
- B. Nothing.



DON'T TALK ABOUT VIETNAM.

_____26. What advice did Robert McNamara give to LBJ when he first asked him for a brief on the war in 1964?

- A. to invade North Vietnam.
- B. to pull out of South Vietnam.
- C. not to talk about the war.
- D. Send no soldiers to Vietnam.



POLIO

____27. Both Robert McNamara and his wife were survivors of –

- A. The Spanish Flu
- B. Polio
- C. Malaria
- D. Dysentery



THE FORD MOTOR COMPANY

____28. What company did Robert McNamara work for in the years after World War II?

- A. Ford Motor Company
- B. IBM
- C. Boeing
- D. Coca-Cola



ALL OF THE AUTOMOBILE SAFETY FEATURES.

____29. In order to prevent injuries in Ford automobiles, what did Robert McNamara insist the company introduce?

- A. seatbelts
- B. safer steering columns
- C. padded instrument panels
- D. all of the above



HE WAS ASKED TO JOIN JFK'S CABINET.

 30. Robert McNamara was the first President of the Ford Motor Company who was not in the Ford family; however, after five weeks he quit. Why?

- A. Ford was anti-Semitic and hateful.
- B. McNamara hated the job.
- C. He was fired for embezzlement.
- D. He was asked to join JFK's Cabinet.



SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

_____31. What Cabinet position did McNamara eventually accept from John F. Kennedy?

- A. The Treasury Department
- B. Secretary of Defense
- C. Department of the Interior
- D. Department of Commerce



NGO DIEM

_____32. What South Vietnamese leader was overthrown by a military coup in 1963 – a coup which the United States government was at least partially responsible for?

- A. Ngo Diem
- B. Ho Chi Minh
- C. Kim Il Sung
- D. Nguyen Thanh



ROBERT MCNAMARA PICKED THE SITE AT ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY WHERE JOHN FITZGERALD KENNEDY WAS LAIN TO REST...

_____33. Who picked out the spot in Arlington National Cemetery where President John F. Kennedy was buried after his assassination in November of 1963?

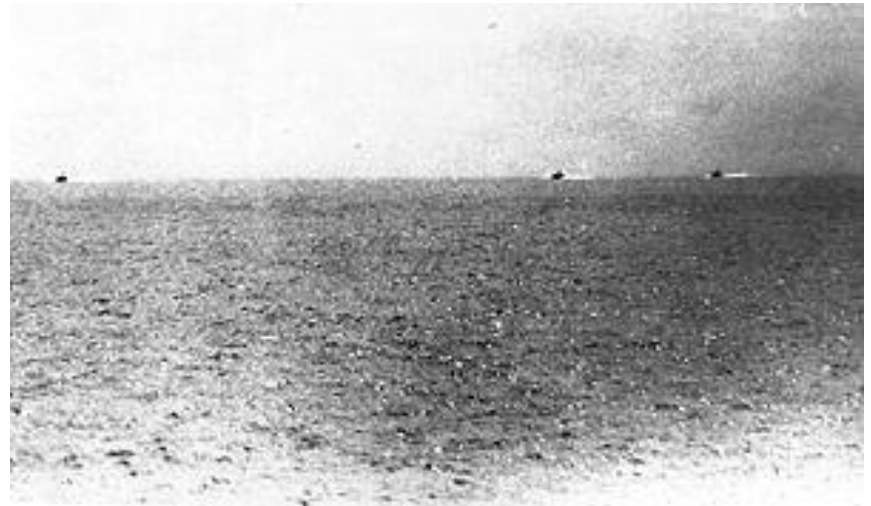
- A. Lyndon Johnson
- B. Jackie Kennedy
- C. Robert McNamara
- D. Robert F. Kennedy



A NORTH VIETNAMESE GUNBOAT: THERE!

____ 34. What attacked the *USS Maddox* in the Gulf of Tonkin in August of 1964?

- A. a Soviet jet plane.
- B. a Chinese naval vessel.
- C. a North Vietnamese gunboat.
- D. a North Korean destroyer.



THE NORTH VIETNAMESE WERE BOMBED.

_____35. As a result of a second attack – this time a “torpedo attack” on the USS Turner Joy, the United States of America bombed –

- A. The Soviet Union
- B. China
- C. North Vietnam
- D. North Korea



THE GULF OF TONKIN RESOLUTION WAS USED TO AUTHORIZE THE VIETNAM WAR IN 1964.

____36. What was the name of the resolution which Congress passed to give President Lyndon Johnson permission to conduct the war in Vietnam?

- A. The Gulf of Tonkin Resolution
- B. The Declaration of War Against Vietnam
- C. The War on Terrorism
- D. The Cold War



NO DOUBT ABOUT THAT. I *THINK*...

_____ 37. According to Robert McNamara, the second attack – a torpedo attack against the *USS Turner Joy* which prompted both bombing raids and the Gulf of Tonkin Resolution –

- A. was very provocative on the part of the North Vietnamese.
- B. was probably authorized by the Soviet Union.
- C. ended up killing six US sailors.
- D. didn't happen.



VIETNAM WAS BOMBED HEAVILY THROUGHOUT THE WAR.

_____38. Two to three times
the number of bombs dropped
on Western Europe during
World War II were dropped on –

- A. Korea
- B. Vietnam
- C. Japan
- D. Cambodia and Laos



ALL OF THE ABOVE.

____ 39. According to Robert McNamara, the Vietnamese viewed Americans as –

- A. colonial oppressors, just like France.
- B. an obstacle to their independence.
- C. warmongers seeking to enslave them.
- D. all of these.



MILLIONS OF VIETNAMESE DIED.

_____40. How many Vietnamese people died during the Vietnam War in order for that nation to gain it's independence?

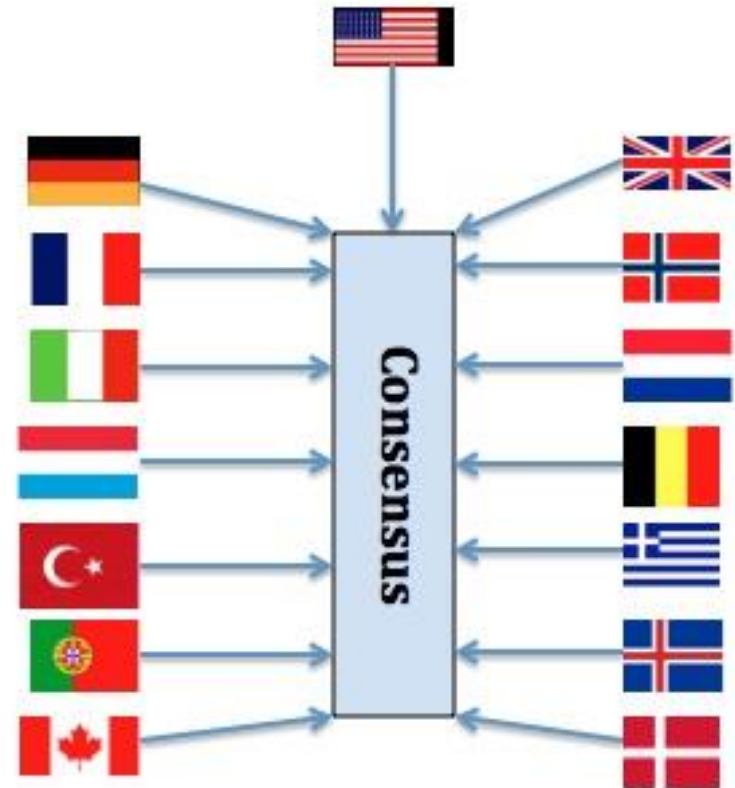
- A. Ten Thousand
- B. Three Hundred Thousand
- C. Seven Hundred Thousand
- D. Three Million



UNILATERALLY

_____41. Robert McNamara claims that although the United States is the most powerful nation on Earth militarily, politically, and economically, we shouldn't apply power –

- A. unilaterally.
- B. with the support of coalitions.
- C. to fight against communists.
- D. against a smaller, weaker nation.

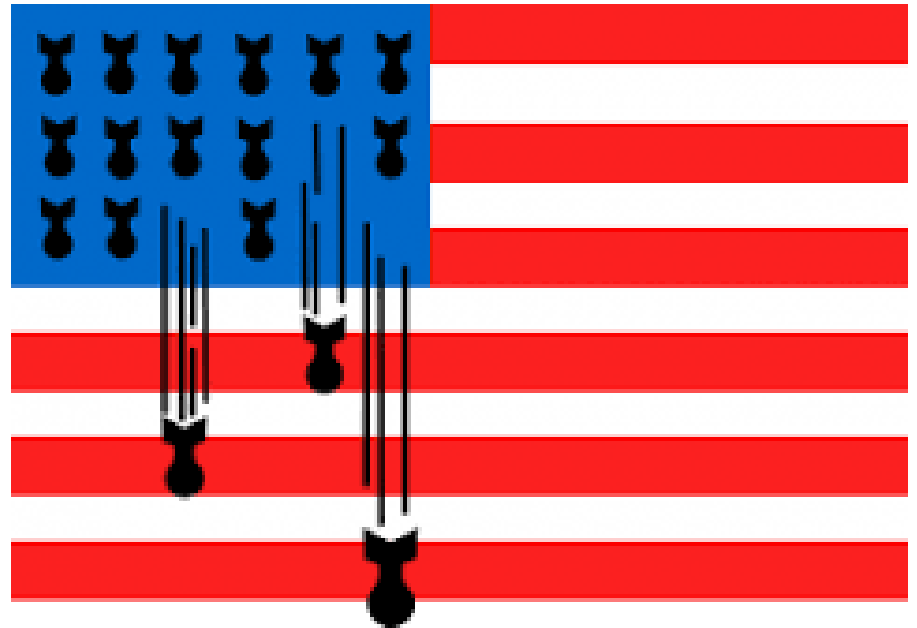


If Americans cannot convince our allies to support us in our foreign policy initiatives, it may be wise to re-think our options!

REASONING IN FOREIGN POLICY

_____42. If the United States cannot persuade nations with comparable values of the justice of our cause, we must re-examine our –

- A. military strength
- B. economic strength
- C. reasoning in foreign policy.
- D. NATO partners and allies.



AGENT ORANGE CAUSED ALL OF THESE.

_____43. What was the side-effect of the chemical defoliant Agent Orange?

- A. It caused cancer and killed people.
- B. It caused birth defects in women.
- C. It destroyed the ecosystem.
- D. All of these.



HE BURNED HIMSELF ALIVE.

_____44. What did Norman Morrison, a Quaker and pacifist, do below Robert McNamara's office during the Vietnam War?

- A. He burned himself alive.
- B. He sprayed blood on the Pentagon.
- C. He shot the windows of his office.
- D. He burned his draft card.



APPROXIMATELY 50,000 PROTESTORS MARCHED TO THE PENTAGON IN 1967.

_____45. How many
Americans protested the
Vietnam War outside the
Pentagon in a tense standoff in
1967?

- A. several hundred
- B. twenty thousand
- C. fifty thousand
- D. two-hundred thousand



PRESIDENT LYNDON BAINES JOHNSON WAS MOST RESPONSIBLE FOR THIS WAR.

_____46. According to Robert McNamara, who was responsible for the Vietnam War?

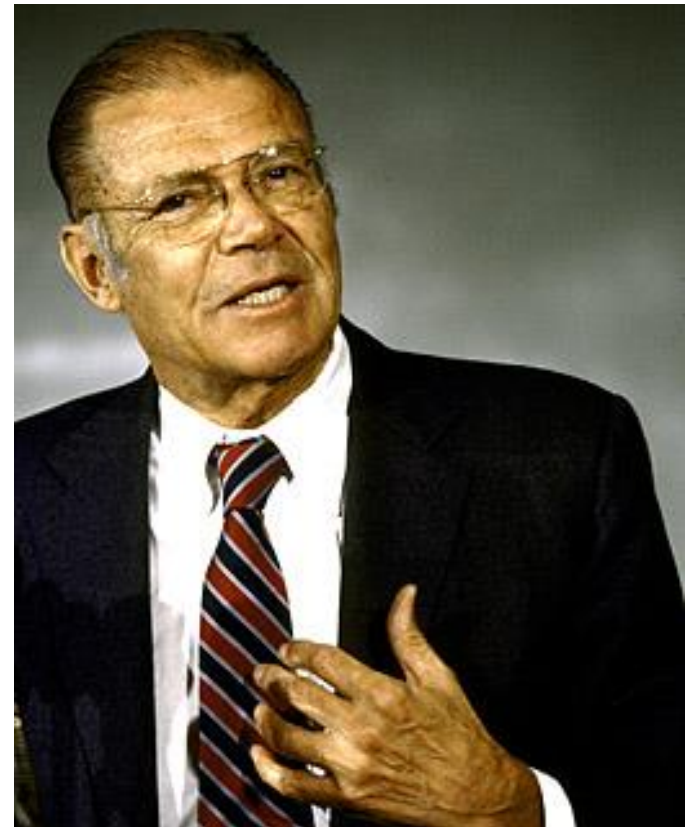
- A. President Lyndon Johnson
- B. President John F. Kennedy
- C. Congress
- D. The Joint Chiefs of Staff



HE QUIT. LBJ ASKED HIM TO RESIGN, THOUGH.

____ 47. Was Robert S.
McNamara fired, or did he quit?

- A. He was fired by LBJ.
- B. He resigned in November, 1967.



25,000 HAD DIED. BY THE END OF THE VIETNAM WAR, OVER 58,000 AMERICANS HAD DIED IN VIETNAM.

_____48. Approximately how many Americans had died in the Vietnam War by the time Robert McNamara resigned and LBJ decided not to run for re-election in 1968?

- A. 10,000**
- B. 15,000**
- C. 25,000**
- D. 50,000**



NO. BUT YOU SHOULD KEEP TRYING.

 49. Does Robert McNamara believe that human beings can eliminate war?

- A. Yes
- B. No



MCNAMARA REFUSED TO COMMENT: “I’D RATHER BE DAMNED IF I DON’T.”

 50. When asked whether or not he felt any guilt for the role he played in directing the Vietnam War –

A. McNamara claimed that he felt neither guilt nor shame for his role.

B. McNamara claimed that he was consumed by guilt and sadness.

C. McNamara refused to comment any further: “I’d rather be damned if I don’t.”

D. McNamara claimed he was not responsible for the conflict, LBJ and Nixon were.



©Taylor Jones - all rights reserved.

caglecartoons.com